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396.43380X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): T. NOMURA, et al.  
Application No.: 10/749,409  
Filed: January 2, 2004  
Title: PNEUMATIC TIRE  
Group: 1733  
Examiner: TBD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 12, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of an European Search Report, and copies of documents cited therein, in connection with an European patent application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In any event, the following Statement is made under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

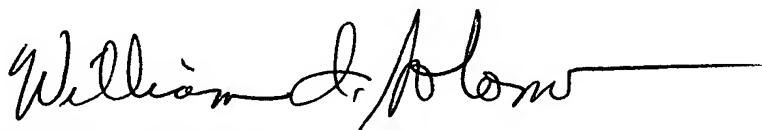
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 396.43380X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William I. Solomon', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b> Application Number <b>10/749,409</b> Filing Date <b>1/2/2004</b> First Named Inventor <b>T. Nomura, et al.</b> Art Unit <b>1733</b> Examiner Name <b>TBD</b> Attorney Docket Number <b>396.43380X00</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			
Sheet	1	of	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		EP 1 081 170	3/7/2001	Takeda Chemical Industries, Ltd.		
		EP 1 145 872	10/17/2001	The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.		
		EP 0 706 878	4/17/1996	Gunze Limited and The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.		
		EP 1 369 443	12/10/2003	Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		Communication from EPO, with European Search Report, mailed April 13, 2004, for No. EP. 03 02 9991	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2